



Office of the National Ombudsman

Regulatory Fairness Forum for Small Business

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Des Moines, Iowa

Small business owners will have an opportunity to discuss issues regarding Federal regulatory compliance and enforcement during this Forum.

Have you or a small business owner you know been unfairly fined or penalized by a Federal government agency, or is a Federal agency enforcement action imminent?

WHO: **SBA National Ombudsman Nicholas Owens**, members of the Region VII Regulatory Fairness Board and representatives of Federal regulatory agencies will hear issues and comments about Federal regulatory enforcement and compliance. Small business owners, representatives of trade associations and community and business leaders are invited to comment about compliance and enforcement of regulations by Federal agencies and to learn more about the impact of federal regulations on small businesses.

WHAT: To create a more cooperative regulatory environment among Federal agencies and small businesses, Congress has directed the SBA and the National Ombudsman to hold Regulatory Fairness forums. Issues addressed at this forum will be directed to the appropriate Federal regulatory agency for a higher-level review of the fairness in the enforcement action. In many instances, the National Ombudsman's action has resulted in Federal agencies reducing or waiving penalties and/or compliance actions in cases of unfair or excessive regulatory enforcement.

WHERE: Iowa Department of Economic Development
2nd Floor ICN Room
200 East Grand Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50309

WHEN: Wednesday, September 5, 2007
Registration: 9:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.
Hearing: 10 a.m. to Noon

Small business owners may testify during the forum by registering in advance. Please call Dave Lentell at (515) 284-4522 at the SBA's Des Moines District Office or send an e-mail to thomas.lentell@sba.gov. Testimony may be submitted in writing in advance or at the forum. Anyone desiring confidentiality may request that his or her name not be released and may submit written testimony in lieu of a public appearance at the forum.

For additional information, visit the Office of the National Ombudsman's website at www.sba.gov/ombudsman, or call José Méndez at (202) 205-6178.



Make Your Voice Heard!



All of the SBA's programs and services are provided to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made, if requested at least 2 weeks in advance. Contact: Dave Lentell at (515) 284-4522.